

plurality of axially extending holes 48 formed in one end wall 49 of the hub 45. The holes 48 are positioned near the periphery of the roll and are spaced circumferentially to communicate with axial rows of holes 50, in the surface of the roll 20, extending radially into the hub 45 from the peripheral surface. The holes 50 form a foraminous surface about the peripheral surface and near the axial midpoint of the external surface of roll 20. Each row of holes 50 communicate with one of the holes 48 formed in an end wall 49 of the hub 45. In this manner, the holes 50 are subjected to the same pressures as the holes 48. Mounted against the end wall 49 of the hub 45, is a manifold 60. The manifold 60 has a grooved arcuate slot 61 extending about 90 to 180 degrees about its end wall adjacent axially to the end wall 49 of the hub 45, see Figures 1 and 5. The manifold 60 is supported in a fixed position by a bracket 63, and the slot 61 is positioned adjacent the path where the tape will engage the surface of the roll 20. The manifold 60 is also formed with a single axially extending bore 62 adjacent one end of the slot 61. This bore 62 is located in the manifold at the transition area where the leading end of the tape 11 is transferred from the vacuum anvil roll 20 to the vacuum wheel applicator 25. The slot 61 of the manifold is connected via openings in the manifold to a pump (not shown) which exhausts air from the slot 61. As the hub 45 of the vacuum roll 20 rotates, the holes 48 serially come into communication with the slot 61 and the air is exhausted from the holes 48 and from the holes 50 creating a force against one side of the tape 11 which is less than atmospheric, a vacuum, and thus the atmospheric pressure holds the tape against the foraminous surface of the roll 20 in the area of the slot 61 as it rotates the holes 48 along the slot 61. Likewise, when a hole 48 moves past the slot 61 it is aligned axially with the bore 62, and that hole 48 is subjected to pressurized air, above atmospheric, and the air passes through the holes 48 progressively as the vacuum roll 20 is rotated past the transition area and the tape is lifted from the surface of the roll 20 and picked up by the surface of the vacuum wheel applicator 25. Air couplings are joined to the outboard side of the manifold 60 permitting air to be exhausted from the slot 61 and air to be forced under pressure into the bore 62. An air line of about 0.25 inch (0.635 cm) diameter can provide adequate air to blow the tape off the anvil roll 20. It will be readily understood that as the vacuum roll 20 rotates, the holes 48 become aligned or substantially aligned with the slot 61 and the holes 50 draw the tape 11 against the surface of the vacuum roll 20. This moves the tape along with the rotation of the anvil vacuum roll. When the holes 48 become aligned with the bore 62 air is forced radially outward through a row of the holes 50 against the tape 11 pushing it